

(Ms. BALDWIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 844, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to treat certain amounts paid for physical activity, fitness, and exercise as amounts paid for medical care.

S. 1031

At the request of Mr. WARNOCK, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1031, a bill to require the Comptroller General of the United States to conduct a study on disparities associated with race and ethnicity with respect to certain benefits administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

S. 1090

At the request of Mr. CRUZ, the name of the Senator from Utah (Mr. LEE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1090, a bill to eliminate the Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection.

S. 1125

At the request of Ms. STABENOW, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1125, a bill to recommend that the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation test the effect of a dementia care management model, and for other purposes.

S. 1187

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1187, a bill to amend the Tariff Act of 1930 to improve the administration of antidumping and countervailing duty laws, and for other purposes.

S. 1251

At the request of Mr. BRAUN, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Ms. DUCKWORTH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1251, a bill to authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to develop a program to reduce barriers to entry for farmers, ranchers, and private forest landowners in certain voluntary markets, and for other purposes.

S. 1338

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1338, a bill to repeal the Protection of Lawful Commerce in Arms Act, and provide for the discoverability and admissibility of gun trace information in civil proceedings.

S. 1383

At the request of Mr. KING, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1383, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services to develop best practices for the establishment and use of behavioral intervention teams at schools, and for other purposes.

S. 1431

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. DAINES) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1431, a bill to prohibit the Director of the Office of Management and

Budget from raising the minimum urban area population to qualify a metropolitan statistical area from 50,000, and for other purposes.

S. 1441

At the request of Mr. WICKER, the names of the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY), the Senator from Alabama (Mr. TUBERVILLE) and the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) were added as cosponsors of S. 1441, a bill to appropriate an additional amount to improve the Navy shipyard infrastructure of the United States.

S. 1488

At the request of Ms. DUCKWORTH, the names of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) and the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) were added as cosponsors of S. 1488, a bill to amend title 37, United States Code, to establish a basic needs allowance for low-income regular members of the Armed Forces.

S. 1489

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1489, a bill to amend the Inspector General Act of 1978 to establish an Inspector General of the Office of the United States Trade Representative, and for other purposes.

S. 1512

At the request of Mr. SCHATZ, the names of the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) and the Senator from Nebraska (Mrs. FISCHER) were added as cosponsors of S. 1512, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to expand access to telehealth services, and for other purposes.

S. 1522

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. ROUNDS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1522, a bill to allow reciprocity for the carrying of certain concealed firearms.

S. 1542

At the request of Mr. BOOKER, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1542, a bill to amend titles XIX and XXI of the Social Security Act to improve Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program for low-income mothers.

S. 1571

At the request of Ms. DUCKWORTH, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1571, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to expand parental leave for members of the Armed Forces, to reduce the service commitment required for participation in the career intermission program of a military department, and for other purposes.

S. 1572

At the request of Ms. DUCKWORTH, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. ROSEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1572, a bill to expand child care opportunities for members of the Armed Forces, and for other purposes.

S. 1637

At the request of Mrs. BLACKBURN, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mr. CRUZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1637, a bill to impose certain measures with respect to Hizballah-dominated areas in Lebanon and to impose sanctions with respect to senior foreign political figures in Lebanon supporting Hizballah.

S. 1662

At the request of Mr. LUJAN, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1662, a bill to increase funding for the Reagan-Udall Foundation for the Food and Drug Administration and for the Foundation for the National Institutes of Health.

S.J. RES. 10

At the request of Mr. KAINÉ, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) was added as a cosponsor of S.J. Res. 10, a joint resolution to repeal the authorizations for use of military force against Iraq, and for other purposes.

S. CON. RES. 6

At the request of Mr. BOOKER, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Con. Res. 6, a concurrent resolution urging the establishment of a United States Commission on Truth, Racial Healing, and Transformation.

S. RES. 213

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the names of the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. HAGERTY) and the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 213, a resolution recognizing the importance of the United States-Republic of Korea relationship to safeguarding peace, security and prosperity on the Korean Peninsula, in the Indo-Pacific region and beyond, and welcoming the visit of President Moon Jae-in to the United States.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 219—DESIGNATING MAY 18, 2021, AS “CASA/GAL VOLUNTEERS’ DAY”

Mr. BROWN (for himself, Mr. YOUNG, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. BRAUN, Ms. SMITH, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. BOOKER, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. GRASSLEY, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. TILLIS, and Mr. LANKFORD) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 219

Whereas Court Appointed Special Advocate (referred to in this preamble as “CASA”) and Guardian ad Litem (referred to in this preamble as “GAL”) volunteers are trained and qualified to advocate nationwide for the best interests of children before courts in cases with allegations of abuse or neglect;

Whereas more than 424,000 children in the United States enter the foster care system, through no fault of their own, due to allegations of abuse or neglect and rely on adults to advocate on their behalf;

Whereas children of color are more likely to stay in the foster care system for longer

periods of time and are less likely to be reunited with their biological families;

Whereas CASA and GAL volunteers, appointed by a judge—

(1) provide the court with the comprehensive and objective information the court needs to make the most well-informed decisions and help ensure positive outcomes for children and youth; and

(2) take time to build meaningful and authentic relationships with such children and youth;

Whereas CASA and GAL communities across the country remain committed to the recruitment and retention of volunteers who reflect the diversity of the children they serve;

Whereas research shows that when a caring and consistent adult like a CASA or GAL volunteer is assigned to a case, outcomes are strengthened for children and families, a higher number of services are ordered, and children are significantly less likely to reenter the child welfare system, perform better academically and behaviorally, and have higher levels of hope;

Whereas, in January 1974, Congress enacted the Child Abuse Prevention Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5101 et seq.);

Whereas the Child Abuse Prevention Treatment Act provides financial assistance to States for the prevention and treatment of child abuse and neglect and includes a requirement that in every case a GAL must be appointed to represent the best interest of the child;

Whereas such GAL requirement was subsequently amended to provide that the GAL may be an attorney or a court-appointed special advocate; and

Whereas, today, CASA and GAL volunteers span 49 States and the District of Columbia, including 948 State organizations and local programs, and more than 96,000 volunteers offer their services to nearly 277,000 children, youth, and families: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates May 18, 2021, as “National CASA/GAL Volunteers’ Day”; and

(2) commends and celebrates CASA and GAL volunteers for their dedication and hard work in advocating for the best interest of children so that every child who has experienced abuse or neglect can be safe, have a permanent home, and have the opportunity to thrive.

SENATE RESOLUTION 220—CALLING UPON THE UNITED STATES SENATE TO GIVE ITS ADVICE AND CONSENT TO THE RATIFICATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION ON THE LAW OF THE SEA

Ms. HIRONO (for herself, Ms. MURKOWSKI, and Mr. KANE) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 220

Whereas the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) was adopted by the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea in December 1982 and entered into force in November 1994 to establish a treaty regime to govern activities on, over, and under the world’s oceans;

Whereas the UNCLOS builds on four 1958 Law of the Sea conventions to which the United States is a party, namely the Convention on the Territorial Sea and the Contiguous Zone, the Convention on the High Seas, the Convention on the Continental Shelf, and the Convention on Fishing and Con-

servation of the Living Resources of the High Seas;

Whereas the UNCLOS and an associated 1994 agreement relating to implementation of the treaty were transmitted to the Senate on October 6, 1994, and, in the absence of Senate advice and consent to ratification, the United States is not a party to the treaty or the associated 1994 agreement;

Whereas the treaty has been ratified by 167 parties, which includes 166 countries and the European Union, but not the United States;

Whereas the United States, like most other countries, maintains that coastal States under the UNCLOS have the right to regulate economic activities in their Exclusive Economic Zones (EEZs), but do not have the right to regulate foreign military activities in their EEZs;

Whereas the treaty’s provisions relating to navigational rights, including navigational rights in EEZs, reflect the diplomatic position of the United States on the issue dating back to the adoption of the UNCLOS in 1982;

Whereas becoming a party to the treaty would codify the United States’ current position of recognizing the provisions within the UNCLOS as customary international law;

Whereas becoming a party to the treaty would give the United States standing to participate in discussions relating to the treaty and thereby improve the ability of the United States to intervene as a full party to disputes relating to navigational rights and to defend United States interpretations of the treaty’s provisions, including those relating to whether coastal States have a right under the UNCLOS to regulate foreign military activities in their EEZs;

Whereas relying on customary international norms to defend United States interests in those issues is not sufficient, because customary international law is not universally accepted and is subject to change over time based on state practice;

Whereas relying on other countries to assert claims on behalf of the United States at the Permanent Court of Arbitration at The Hague is woefully insufficient to defend and uphold United States sovereign rights and interests;

Whereas the Permanent Court of Arbitration, in the July 12, 2016, ruling on the case *In the Matter of the South China Sea Arbitration*, stated that “the Tribunal forwarded to the Parties for their comment a Note Verbale from the Embassy of the United States of America, requesting to send a representative to observe the hearing”, and “the Tribunal communicated to the Parties and the U.S. Embassy that it had decided that ‘only interested States parties to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea will be admitted as observers’ and thus could not accede to the U.S. request”;

Whereas, on November 25, 2018, the Russian Federation violated international norms and binding agreements, including the UNCLOS, in firing upon, ramming, and seizing Ukrainian vessels and crews attempting to pass through the Kerch Strait;

Whereas, on May 25, 2019, the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea ruled in a vote of 19-1 that “[t]he Russian Federation shall immediately release the Ukrainian naval vessels *Berdyansk*, *Nikopol* and *Yani Kapu*, and return them to the custody of Ukraine” and that “[t]he Russian Federation shall immediately release the 24 detained Ukrainian servicemen and allow them to return to Ukraine”, demonstrating the Tribunal’s rejection of the Russian Federation’s arguments in that matter in relation to the Law of the Sea;

Whereas, despite the Tribunal’s ruling aligning with the position of the United States Government on the November 25, 2018, incident, the continued nonparticipation of

the United States in the UNCLOS limits the ability of the United States to effectively respond to the Russian Federation’s actions and to any potential future violations by the Russian Federation and any other signatory of UNCLOS;

Whereas the current Secretary of Defense, the Honorable Lloyd Austin, stated that “the United States has long treated the UNCLOS’s provisions related to navigation and overflight as reflective of longstanding and customary international law. Our military already acts in a manner consistent with these rights and freedoms, so accession to the Convention will not impact the manner in which we conduct our operations”, in response to a question for the record from Senator Hirono on January 21, 2021;

Whereas the current Chief of Naval Operations, Admiral Michael Gilday, stated that “becoming a party to the Convention would reinforce freedom of the seas and the navigational rights vital to our global force posture in the world’s largest maneuver space. Joining the Convention would also demonstrate our commitment to the rule of law, and strengthen our credibility with other Convention parties”, in response to advance policy questions on July 30, 2019, before the Committee on Armed Services of the Senate;

Whereas the current Chief of Naval Operations, Admiral Michael Gilday, further stated that “acceding to the Convention would strengthen our strategic position on issues pertaining to the [South China Sea and the Arctic]. The United States would have increased credibility when responding to excessive maritime claims and militarization efforts in the South China Sea. With respect to the Arctic, becoming a party to the Convention would allow the U.S. to position itself to safeguard access for the purposes of maritime traffic, resource exploitation, and other human activities, while ensuring other states comply with the law of the sea”, in response to advance policy questions on July 30, 2019, before the Committee on Armed Services of the Senate;

Whereas the current Commander of the United States Indo-Pacific Command, Admiral John C. Aquilino, stated that “there’s really two main reasons [to ratify the UNCLOS]: as the group gets together, it would be certainly beneficial if we had a seat at the table when there were discussions occurring as it applied to potential adjustments and the interpretations of those international laws and the second reason is it puts us in an increased position of credibility . . . we adhere to the UNCLOS treaty in our operations, and it would make our position must stronger if we were signatories”, on March 23, 2021, at his nomination hearing before the Committee on Armed Services of the Senate;

Whereas the Commander, North American Aerospace Defense Command and United States Northern Command, General Glen VanHerck, stated, “It would be [in the interests of the United States to accede to the UNCLOS because] it gives us a better posture, a seat at the table, more credibility when we work many of the issues that we have to work around the globe with allies, partners, and potential competitors”, on March 16, 2021, before the Committee on Armed Services of the Senate;

Whereas the Commander, North American Aerospace Defense Command and United States Northern Command, General Glen VanHerck, further stated in regard to United States ratification of the UNCLOS that “as Russia takes over the Arctic Council in May [2021], it’s never been more crucial for us with our like-minded nations and allies and partners that we come to agreement to not allow Russia and China to exploit any seams